

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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Phone: 503-326-2131  
Toll Free 1-800-338-2157  
Email: [nass-or@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-or@nass.usda.gov)  
Internet - [www.nass.usda.gov/or](http://www.nass.usda.gov/or)

**Weather:** Most of the State saw another week of warm and dry temperatures. The exception was on the coast where high temperatures were considerably cooler than the rest of the State. An estimated 7 days were suitable for fieldwork last week. Low temperatures ranged from the mid 30's in south central Oregon to the low 50's in parts of the Willamette Valley. High temperatures were in the 60's and 70's on the coast and in the 80's and 90's across the rest of the State. No significant precipitation was reported last week. Dangerous fire conditions continued in many areas.

**Field Crops:** Another week of warm and dry weather allowed producers to make good progress harvesting their small grain and grass seed crops. As of August 14<sup>th</sup>, 88 percent of the winter wheat and 77 percent of the spring wheat had been harvested statewide. Harvest continued to progress ahead of the 5-year average for both crops. Stripe rust was reported to be having a negative effect on wheat yields in parts of central Oregon. Hay producers were busy putting up their second and third cuttings of alfalfa and other hay crops.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pastures and rangeland continued to dry up across the State. Some areas reported pasture forage about gone and supplemental feeding was common. Most rangeland was also very dry, although some areas in southeastern Oregon were reported to be holding up very well. Livestock water was running very short in the drier range areas, which may soon force producers to move herds. Overall, livestock were still doing very well in the hot dry August conditions.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Summer maintenance activities continued for the nursery industry along with a lot of irrigation. Greenhouses are getting ready for fall plants. Everyone is preparing for the 2005 FarWest Nursery Show in Portland from August 25 to 27. This is one of the biggest nursery shows in the USA with over 850 exhibitors and more than 450 growers.

**Vegetables:** In western Oregon, green beans were being harvested and shipped to processors. Sweet corn and tomato crops looked good. To date, tomato blight has not been a problem. Vegetable seeds continued to be harvested. Cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, zucchini, and other summer squash were in full production. Potatoes and onions looked good in Klamath County. Early onions in Malheur County were being harvested. A virus has shown up in the yellow onions, which is of concern.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Northern Willamette Valley blackberry, blueberry and peach harvest continued. Strawberry bed renovation continued. Some growers were still spraying for filbertworm control. Southern Willamette Valley peaches have been a nice crop so far. Some apples and pears were available. There were reports of mummy berry disease in blueberries. The hazelnut crop looks to be better than earlier speculation. Summer pear harvest began in the lower Hood River Valley with Starkrimson and Bartletts. Early pear harvest was underway in southern Oregon. Wild blackberries, blueberries and raspberries were picked. Peach harvest was ongoing.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/14/05**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	32	47	21	0
Subsoil	28	47	25	0

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/14/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat harvested	88	71	80	84
Barley harvested	83	77	67	67
Spring wheat harvested	77	61	67	66
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.8

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/14/05**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Spring wheat	19	26	27	24	4
Barley	6	16	38	35	5
Range and pasture	7	16	36	37	4

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Some field burning going on. Some apples. Nice peach crop so far. A few pears here and there. Hazelnut crop looks better than earlier speculation. Mediocre crop of blackberries and blueberries this year. Lots of mummy berry disease in blueberries. Some day-neutral strawberries still producing. Vegetable crops in full production. Tomato blight so far has been avoided. Corn and tomato crops looking good. Greenhouse & nursery crops are slowing down.

**CLACKAMAS:** Normal hot and dry August weather. Grass seed harvest winding down. Pastures about gone. Supplemental feeding common. Grain harvest is advancing rapidly under good weather conditions. Evergreen blackberry picking is at near peak. Blueberry harvest continues. Other berry crops are being renovated and pruned. Green beans are coming on very fast. Early sweet corn is ready. Many summer vegetables are available for local markets. Nurseries are trying to keep up with irrigation. Livestock are still in good condition and looking for shade. Dryland pastures are starting slip-off in feed output.

**COOS/CURRY:** Based on AgriMet weather notes for August 7 through August 13, 2005, weather consistently dry with little change in temperature and wind. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 58 days, at Brookings-Harbor: 57 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 57.7 at Brookings-Harbor to 57.8 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 65.9 at Bandon to 76.7 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 49.6 at Brookings-Harbor to 50.5 deg F at Bandon. Precipitation ranged from 0.00" at Bandon to 0.00" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (GDD) (base 50 deg F) ranged from 57 GDD at Bandon to 66 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

**HOOD RIVER:** Summer pear harvest began in the lower Hood River Valley with Starkrimson and Bartlett being picked. Elsewhere growers prepared orchards for harvest.

**JACKSON:** It has been quite hot and dry this week, good for grain harvest and haying. Early pear harvest now underway, mostly Bartletts. Lots of wild blackberries now ripe. Peaches are also being picked as each variety ripens. Other work in the fruit orchards has been lots of irrigating. Lots of good fresh vegetables now at roadside stands and farmers' markets. Lots of irrigating to keep the crops growing. Greenhouses still getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries very busy with watering and other plant maintenance. All livestock looking quite good if on good irrigated pastures. Dry ground pastures are dried up and mostly eaten clean now. It is taking lots of irrigating to keep pastures green. It was a good week for harvesting of any crops that were ready.

Really hot and dry. Days have been in mid to upper nineties and nights near 60. We could use a good rain to cool things down and wet the soil. It has been extremely hot. The higher summer pastures are becoming very dry from the lack of summer rains and extremely high temperatures. All irrigated crops are doing well. Second cutting of alfalfa has begun. Livestock are doing well considering the hot dry conditions. Wheat and barley are being harvested. Some second cutting grass hay has begun to be cut as well.

**JOSEPHINE:** Very hot and very dry. We also have a lot of smoke in valley from fire. Truck gardens are putting out a lot of produce right now and doing a very good business. We have had local raspberries, blackberries, blueberries, green beans, summer squash, peppers, tomatoes, corn, eggplant. Product is excellent quality and abundant. Hay fields are green again and growing. Second cutting questionable. Some table grapes did not produce fruit this year.

**MARION:** Grass seed harvest continued past the mid point. Vegetable seed crop and cannery bean harvest continued. On-going heat and dryness continued the additional demand for water on nursery and other irrigated crops.

**POLK:** There have been some reports of winter wheat quality and yields being exceptional. However, there also have been some reports of good yields but poor quality. One grass seed cleaner reported cleaned grass seed measuring 31 pounds per bushel. Temperatures have continued to be above average. Fire conditions are becoming extreme.

**WASHINGTON:** Most grass seed harvested, flailed or straw baled and removed. Not affected much by voles in this area. Beets for seed windrowed. Third cutting alfalfa being irrigated. Barley planted after spring flooding that destroyed earlier seeding is heading out. Wheat straw baled. Late harvest strawberries at markets. Blueberries and blackberries on-going. Nuts sizing. Early strawberries, flailed and prepared for next year. Spraying grapes for mildew prevention. Grapes look good. Green beans going to processors by truck loads. Sweet corn offerings increasing. Zucchini, cucumbers and summer squash expanding. Summer squash available. Seeding sets are being planted and irrigated. Pastures drying. Supplemental feeding started. Irrigated pastures holding up. Bees are in red clover fields doing pollination. Temperatures: High 96, low 52. Relative humidity 50 - 75%.

**YAMHILL:** Peach harvest continues. Some hazelnut growers are spraying for filbertworm control.

## EASTERN OREGON

**CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON:** Wheat harvest started this week. The biggest news is that numerous hard red spring wheat fields in the Agency Plains area of Jefferson county have a lot of shriveled seed. Most main tiller heads did not fill the top part of the head; the middle tier heads are less full and shriveled, and the short, late tiller heads are blank. There were serious infestations of stripe rust this year and even on fields that were sprayed early, there was shrivel. Irrigation may have been shut off too soon with the hot weather. There was frost earlier in the season, but did not appear to have done damage at the time. Soft white wheat fields checked in Culver weeks ago did not appear to have much kernel damage from the rust, but we will see with harvest. Irrigated production field of Stephens SWWW at COARC Madras (Ag Experiment Station) went about 135 bu/ac. A dryland SWWW field next to city of Madras went 38 bu/acre. Winter wheat yield trial at COARC was harvested this week. Mint harvest for oil has begun. Garlic harvest is in full swing. There is hay down everywhere. COARC will be harvesting 3rd cutting grass and alfalfa variety trials the coming week.

**GILLIAM:** Harvest has been completed in the north end of Gilliam County. We are hearing very different reports - from well above average yields to well below average yields. The lower yields appear to be in recropped spring crops. The south end of the county is near the end of harvest. We are hearing about very good yields but are also hearing about empty heads. Harvest winding down in mid-county, and still in full swing in south county. Record yields in some fall-seeded fields in south part of the county.

**HARNEY:** Hot dry weather helping meadow hay and second crop alfalfa harvest move very smoothly. Most ranges in the best shape I can remember. Stockwater holding up real well for this time of year.

**KLAMATH:** Cooler temperatures and frost free nights and no rain. Second harvest hay continues. Harvest beginning for grain crops and mint. Potatoes and onions look good.

**LAKE:** Temperatures cooled a little during this week. High temperatures were in the mid-to-high 80's. Majority of the county is completing the second cutting of alfalfa. Some grain hay yet to be harvested.

**MALHEUR:** Warm weather all last week but not hot. No measurable precipitation all week. Early onions are being harvested. A virus has shown up in the yellow onions which is of concern. Spring wheat is not yielding as well as everyone had hoped.

**SHERMAN:** Grain harvest continues while others plan to repair and relax before attacking weeds in fallow fields.

**UNION:** Extremely dry conditions. Springs and water holes drying up. Pasture is extremely dry. Grain harvest in full swing. Major concern over fire danger.

**WALLOWA:** Extremely hot temperatures are taking a toll on some crops including irrigated crops. Range conditions are very dry with little or no water. Livestock may have to be moved soon.

**WASCO:** Winter wheat harvest is rapidly being completed. By week's end, harvest was estimated to be 90 percent completed. Third cutting of alfalfa hay just getting underway. The annual Threshing Bee at Dufur was a big event this weekend, demonstrating grain harvest by horse powered header cutting, binder cutting, stationary thrashing powered with a steam engine, horse teams, and other farm equipment. Cattle are holding their own on the deteriorating pastures. Early pear harvest was active this week. Fire danger is critical all over Wasco County.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 14, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

Station	Air temperature <sup>1</sup>				Growing <sup>2</sup> Degree days		Last week precip. <sup>3</sup>			Season cum. Precipitation <sup>4</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	54	76	63	+3	92	+15	-	-0.25	-	61.04	-4.42	93	183
Bandon <sup>5</sup>	50	66	58	-2	55	-8	-	-0.20	-	57.42	-0.80	99	161
Crescent City	49	66	56	-3	46	-17	0.02	-0.18	2	56.21	-8.34	87	136
Florence	41	74	58	-4	57	-20	-	-0.27	-	65.37	-10.16	87	167
Tillamook	42	68	57	-3	49	-15	-	-0.33	-	73.81	-13.58	84	184
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>5</sup>	51	95	71	+4	146	+27	-	-0.19	-	32.02	-8.36	79	160
Corvallis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>	49	94	71	+8	144	+53	-	-0.26	-	41.63	-25.04	62	115
Eugene	44	95	69	+2	135	+9	-	-0.21	-	26.31	-22.30	54	145
Hillsboro	46	95	68	+2	125	+13	-	-0.21	-	26.56	-10.29	72	157
McMinnville	48	96	69	+3	135	+16	-	-0.14	-	25.03	-17.63	59	158
Portland	55	95	71	+3	151	+18	-	-0.21	-	28.03	-7.51	79	161
Salem	52	96	70	+4	143	+24	-	-0.14	-	26.65	-11.98	69	141
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	53	97	75	+4	180	+26	-	-0.07	-	28.86	-1.79	94	112
Medford	54	99	77	+4	189	+26	-	-0.11	-	17.78	-0.72	96	97
Roseburg	54	97	75	+5	173	+33	-	-0.14	-	28.45	-3.83	88	121
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	45	95	69	+4	138	+25	-	-0.14	-	11.36	-2.23	84	95
Echo <sup>5</sup>	45	98	74	+2	171	+11	0.01	-0.06	1	5.26	-3.42	61	103
Heppner	49	97	72	+2	152	+12	-	-0.14	-	10.73	-2.73	80	106
Hermiston	45	100	75	+3	175	+15	-	-0.07	-	6.03	-2.65	69	66
John Day	41	96	71	+2	146	+15	-	-0.21	-	12.18	-0.56	96	113
Madras <sup>5</sup>	44	92	68	+2	130	+10	-	-0.13	-	9.38	-0.68	93	110
Moro	46	93	69	+2	134	+7	-	-0.07	-	8.76	-2.01	81	96
Parkdale <sup>5</sup>	45	89	67	-2	118	-3	-	-0.12	-	20.41	-9.98	67	139
Pendleton	47	96	73	-1	160	-1	-	-0.12	-	8.80	-2.87	75	94
The Dalles	52	95	75	+9	179	+60	-	-0.09	-	9.19	-2.96	76	91
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>	44	90	68	+5	125	+33	-	-0.14	-	13.39	-2.33	85	86
Bend	41	94	67	+4	120	+23	-	-0.14	-	12.43	1.09	110	80
Burns	32	94	67	+2	119	+11	-	-0.14	-	12.62	3.06	132	99
Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup>	35	91	63	-6	96	-31	0.01	-0.13	1	10.37	-1.65	86	93
Klamath Falls	44	89	67	-2	120	-3	-	-0.14	-	11.43	-1.71	87	83
Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>	43	88	67	-2	118	-5	-	-0.14	-	10.69	-2.45	81	116
Lakeview	39	91	66	-1	112	-1	-	-0.13	-	7.90	-7.36	52	65
Lorella <sup>5</sup>	36	92	65	-4	105	-18	-	-0.14	-	12.72	-0.42	97	126
Redmond	40	95	67	+2	121	+9	-	-0.14	-	9.85	1.63	120	87
Worden <sup>5</sup>	33	88	63	-6	90	-33	0.01	-0.13	1	10.70	-2.44	81	102
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	38	95	66	-2	116	-3	-	-0.21	-	10.86	0.56	105	94
Joseph	42	95	69	+9	137	+60	0.04	-0.19	1	18.46	-5.67	77	130
La Grande	41	97	70	+0	140	+1	-	-0.21	-	12.00	-4.87	71	96
Prairie City <sup>5</sup>	37	91	64	+4	102	+26	-	-0.21	-	13.45	-6.79	66	90
Union	42	97	70	+3	140	+20	-	-0.21	-	14.54	1.38	110	109
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	54	98	77	+2	188	+11	0.03	-0.04	1	7.76	-1.60	83	62
Rome	42	97	72	+2	159	+12	-	-0.08	-	8.04	0.12	102	74

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.  
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Janice A. Goodwin, Director

Laci Banks, Agricultural Statistician